

**Connecticut Library Association – Executive Board Meeting
Middletown Library Service Center
February 2, 2012**

- I. Call to Order: Betty Anne Reiter called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
- II. Board Introductions: Board members introduced themselves.
- III. Approval of Minutes: Mary Etter moved to accept the minutes of January 5, 2012 seconded by Barbara Bailey, motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Old Business:
 - a. President’s Report:
 - I. Betty Anne recognized Nadine Lipman and Caitlin Augusta for creating and promoting February 4th as “Take Your Child to the Library Day.” This initiative has received national press and notice.
 - II. There was a wonderful turnout at the Legislative Office Building on January 31 to honor incoming ALA President and Connecticut native Maureen Sullivan. Jay Johnson thanked Betty Anne Reiter, Carl Antonucci, and Mary Etter for making the day a success. Carl also thanked Ken Wiggin, Jennifer Keohane, and Richard Conroy for participating on the panel following the press conference. Maureen is committed to coming back to Connecticut during her presidency to give her support and influence to the state’s libraries and she is planning to attend the 2013 CLA Conference.
 - III. Mary Etter has had a good response for the Legislative Links program and is still working on finding links for all of the legislators. Betty Anne reported they would like to let the legislators know what happened at the event on January 31 and are collecting stories and quotes from the day.
 - b. Treasurer’s Report:
 - I. Alison distributed the Profit & Loss Budget Performance to date. She noted our income level is fine and she is hoping to see another membership renewal peak right before the annual conference.
 - c. 2012 Conference Update:
 - I. Steve Cauffman noted the conference is 14 weeks away and registration is open. To date, 25 vendors have signed up since exhibitor registration opened last September. The Conference Program has been submitted to the printers and should be ready late March or early April.

- II. The committee would like to include a document on the website indicating which CLA Section is sponsoring each session.
- III. Program planners will be receiving emails to confirm any books that need to be available for sale as well as permission to film some of the sessions.
- IV. The conference expense form is being finalized. The committee needs one month's notice if your speaker is to be paid at the conference. The program planner will need to pick up the check to give to the speaker, they won't be handed out when the speaker checks in at registration as had been done in the past. If planners indicated their speaker will need a hotel room, the committee will take care of the registration but if the presenter is staying beyond their speaking day, they will need to register separately for an additional day.

d. Strategic Plan

- I. Barbara Bailey distributed the final draft of the new five-year Strategic Plan and moved to accept it as presented. Peter Ciparelli seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

V. New Business

a. Institutional Affiliate Members

- I. Betty Anne proposed offering an incentive to become an Institutional Affiliate of CLA by allowing joining libraries to send two staff members to the annual conference at the member rate. Discussion followed and the Board agreed this would be a good idea and will look into the logistical details of such an offer.

b. 2013 Conference

- I. Carl DeMilia reported Co-Chairs, Ben Shum and Michelle Martin have chosen the Cromwell Crown Plaza as the site for the 2013 Conference. They are currently working on the contract details.

c. Snapshot Day

- I. Debbie Herman reported that she is on the ALA Committee for Library Advocacy and they would like Snapshot Day to be an annual event. She wondered why Connecticut had decided not hold the event in 2012. Discussion followed regarding the difficulties or benefits of holding the event yearly.
- II. The need for an advocacy agenda rather than just responding in times of crisis was raised including the possibility of the Publicity Committee and Legislative Committee working together on library advocacy. Discussion was tabled until the Chair of the Publicity Committee could be consulted.

VI. Reports

a. ALA

- I. Jay Johnston reported that ALA had passed a resolution stating they oppose libraries being discriminated against by the publishers

of e-books. Maureen Sullivan was attending an e-book conference to speak with the publishers and reassure them that libraries are not the enemy.

b. Awards

- I. Sally Tornow reminded everyone the deadline for award nominations is March 1.

c. CLC

- I. Jill Dugas Hughes encouraged libraries to reach out to Connie Sear who has replaced Pattie Noren as the Manager of Discounts and Negotiations. Pam Najarian is now the Accounts Manager responsible for handling the interactions between libraries and vendors once negotiated contracts are agreed upon.
- II. CLC is offering a series of workshops in partnership with Simmons GSLIS. The first will be held February 29 at the Darien Library and will focus on Top Technology Trends. Additional workshops will be offered. Details are listed in the CLC Newsletter.
- III. CLC has been talking with adult literacy providers in the Greater Hartford Region. They are working on forming a roundtable to help bring providers together with librarians.

d. Editorial

- I. Kate Sheehan was on a panel at the 2012 Digital Book World Conference called “Discovery and Libraries in an Age of Fewer Bookstores.” She will also be attending the “Tools of Change” conference as a reporter for American Libraries.
- II. The deadline for the next issue of CLA Today is February 15.

e. Customer Service

- I. Jennifer Keohane said the committee is working on bringing a repeat of their fall customer service workshop to other regions.

f. Intellectual Freedom

- I. Peter Chase announced the Intellectual Freedom Committee is sponsoring a program at the annual conference on privacy, the library and civil liberties. Susan Herman, national president of the American Civil Liberties Union will be the speaker.
- II. Peter mentioned libraries that use security cameras need to have a regular schedule for erasing the tapes and that schedule needs to be outlined in a written statement. Under Connecticut law there is a two-week minimum requirement for keeping tapes. Peter emphasized cameras cannot be pointed in such a way as to reveal what patrons are borrowing. Librarians should be aware of the rules regarding cooperating with law enforcement who may wish to see the tapes and to understand once the tapes are released they have become a matter of public record. ALA has a webinar regarding this issue.

- g. Nominations
 - I. Debbie Herman said so far she has at least one person for each position on the upcoming slate. She hopes to be able to present the slate at the next Board meeting.
- h. Region 1 – Sally Tornow
 - I. Sherman Library has entered its final phase of fund raising for their expansion, with only \$500,000 left of the \$3.3 million cost. They anticipate breaking ground this summer.
- i. Region 4 – Sheri Szymanski
 - I. Poetry fans take note! New Fairfield Library is hosting “Heart Smart Valentines” with local poet, Alfred Colo on February 11th.
 - II. The Ridgefield Library has been selected to participate in a new NASA program, Astro4Girls. Just one of nine libraries across the nation selected to offer programs designed to attract women to science fields.
- j. Region 6 – Suzanne Maryeski
 - I. **Colchester/Cragin Memorial Library** The library is switching the spaces of the current teen room and the reading room in the older part of the building, along with re-painting and adding new carpet. Pictures should be up on Facebook within a few days. The library hopes to maximize ability to visually supervise the teens and to offer a more private meeting room for the groups that use the meeting room in the evening.
 - II. **East Lyme Public Library:** William Deakyne is retiring after 50 years of library administration and 33 years as director at East Lyme. Lisa Timothy, currently assistant director, will be the new director.
 - III. **Ledyard/Bill and Gales Ferry Public Libraries** The library sponsors monthly hikes in the winter and spring as part of the *Family Fitness Program*. Recently 25 hikers toured the property of a Gales Ferry resident that has been designated a wildlife habitat. The property owner described the work he has done removing invasive species and replanting with native trees, bushes and grasses. Next month’s hike coincides with the Great Back-Yard Bird Count and will be held at the Moore woodland,s with a guide from the Avalonia Land Conservancy. Recently the library held a program on the Battle of Groton Heights with Shirley Ann Dunbar-Rose.
 - IV. **Norwich/Otis Library:** Held a successful reception for the City Council, Board of Education and other city leaders at the library in January. Along with tours of the building, the library showed that they share the strategic priorities of the city, to make the center of the city a safe and inviting place. The library is also working closely with the new police/community liason. For the next month they plan to look at no- traditional statistics – things that have not previously been quantified. For example, Between December 16 &

Dec. 31 there were 38 tutoring sessions just in children's department. They will also count supervised visitations that are held in the library.

- V. **Old Lyme/Phoebe Griffin Noyes:** The library and the FOL are working on the annual fundraiser, the Bookworm Ball, aboard the Lady Katharine Cruise Ship anchored for the evening at the Old Lyme Dock Co. on March 10. The theme this year is the Roaring 20s and attendees are encouraged to dress in attire of the era. Dancing, light fare, cash bar as well as silent and live auction items will complete the evening's activities! Last year's attendance was 220 and they are hoping to top that this year. There are two programs with 20s themes to get some buzz going in February: *I, Zelda*, a one woman performance on Zelda Fitzgerald, and a home brewing demonstration and tasting by a local home brew shop.
- VI. **Preston Public Library:** Jennifer Miele is the new library director in Preston. She is a Connecticut native who was formerly head of adult services in Old Lyme and branch manager in Arizona. This is the first time Preston Library has sent an up-date! The library is located between Ledyard & Norwich, and between Mohegan Sun & Foxwoods.
- VII. **Salem Free Public Library** is starting a subscription to Universal Class offered by Recorded Books. Patrons will be able to access over 500 free intellectually stimulating courses ranging from hobbies, careers, entrepreneurship to exercise.
- VIII. **Stonington Free Library Association:** The Stonington Free Library is planning the 4th Mystery Dinner Fundraiser, which will be on Saturday, April 28th. The theme is *Dinner on the Orient Express* (thank you, Agatha Christie). A *Signature cocktail*, wine and beer and hors d'oeuvres will be served in the library from 6 - 7 pm; this is when guests are given directions to their "mystery" hosts and homes. At 7 pm (this year with a train whistle), guests depart for intimate dinner parties, usually 6 - 10 guests per home. This year's menu is still being decided, but recipes are provided to our hosts and guests enjoy a similar meal. With 125 paying guests (the hosts agree to donate the cost of the dinner), the library expects to clear about \$9500 to \$10,000 for the event, after expenses. Local homes are used to host the dinners.
- IX. **Voluntown Public Library** Feb. 4 celebrating *Take Your Child to the Library* and Feb. 7 there is a chocolate dipping class.

VII. With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mary Etter, seconded by Peter Chase. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Crowley
Recording Secretary

Attendees: Betty Anne Reiter, Beth Crowley, Carl DeMilia, Carl Antonucci, Mary Etter, Barbara Bailey, Debbie Herman, Gerald Seagrave, Peter Chase, Suzanne Maryeski, Kate Sheehan, Jennifer Keohane, Su Epstein, Steve Cauffman, Julian Aiken, Lynn Zaffino, Libby Mueller, Arlene Bielfield, Sally Tornow, Betsy McIlvaine, Paul McIlvaine, Chris Angeli, Linda Williams, Katie Fargo, Richard Conroy, Peter Ciparelli, Kate Byroade, Glenn Grube, Benjamin Shum, Mark Gore, Susan Slaga, Jay Johnston, Alison Wang, Sheri Szymanski, Sally Tornow, Ken Wiggin, Elaine Krikorian, Jill Dugas Hughes.